

RELAT W/MEDIA

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30. [] LIAISON Called Representative Les Aspin (D., Wis.), at his home in Wisconsin, to get clarification of the agenda for Thursday's open hearing before the House Permanent Select Committee Subcommittee on Oversight. The outcome of our discussion was that we would be prepared in an opening statement to cover the Director's regulations on dealing with the media and would be prepared to respond to questions in that area as raised in testimony of other witnesses that appeared before the Subcommittee on this subject. It was also agreed that we would be prepared to respond to questions on the following areas: a) Background briefings of journalists; b) Authority for the conduct of background investigations in the context of the Morton Halperin case, and c) The charges in the David Binder articles on Elias Demetracopoulos harrassment. Mr. Aspin was of the opinion that we would have no problem covering [] in open session. I told him we had hoped that he would have come to his own conclusions during the course of his recent travels abroad. I said, however, we would have objections [] topic in any detail in open session. I said I was not able to pursue that matter, the reasons therefore, on the telephone. He agreed that if we did have problems we would be able, of course, to move to discuss the matter in executive session. Mr. Aspin's interest in pursuing [] [] Elias Demetracopoulos case stems from the fact that this was reported in the David Binder articles in the New York Times.

31. [] LIAISON Called Henry Myers, House Interior and Insular Affairs Subcommittee on Energy & The Environment staff, and made arrangements to see him rather than Chairman Morris Udall (D., Ariz.) to cover a sensitive item. Mr. Gambino, D/OS, and I will see Myers on Wednesday, 26 April.

32. [] LIAISON Met with Tom Latimer, Staff Director, House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, in connection with tomorrow's briefing on [] and provided him three documents: a 1966 safety evaluation; the 15 April 1978 safety evaluation and an excerpt from a cable of Prime Minister Desai's statement to the Indian Parliament today. I explained our Government's position as I understood it, not to make a comment other than to endorse the comments being made by the Indian government. Latimer agreed to this approach.

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